

2413 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0703
(202) 225-3661

59 ELM STREET
SECOND FLOOR
NEW HAVEN, CT 06510
(203) 562-3718

DURHAM/MIDDLEFIELD/MIDDLETOWN
(860) 344-1159

WEBSITE: [HTTP://DELAURO.HOUSE.GOV](http://DELAURO.HOUSE.GOV)



UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ROSA L. DELAURO
3RD DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

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GENERAL GOVERNMENT

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

September 14, 2015

Kristine G. Foye
Deputy Regional Administrator
United States Department of Housing & Urban Development
Boston Regional Office
Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. Federal Building
10 Causeway Street, 3rd Floor
Boston, Massachusetts 02222-1092

Dear Deputy Administrator Foye,

I am writing to you on behalf of the families living at Church Street South and the City of New Haven, Connecticut (the City). As you know, neglected maintenance and repair, not just in recent years but over the life of this property, has resulted in serious questions about the continued livable condition of these apartments.

It is my understanding that your office and members of the HUD Hartford Field Office have been working closely with the current owner of the property, Northland Investment Corporation (Northland), to address the many issues that have been identified and have made some progress towards re-housing some of the families that have already been displaced. Further complicating this matter is the size of these apartments, mainly 4- and 5-bedroom units, which have little to no correlating available properties. It is also my understanding that, as of today, HUD will begin its own Quality Assurance Re-Inspections and has committed to review each of the 301 units. It is my hope that these inspections, though large in magnitude and scope, will be done both thoroughly and as expeditiously as possible.

While I am grateful for the actions that HUD has taken thus far, as well as the willingness of Northland to come to the table, I am greatly concerned that it will soon be concluded that the number of families who will need to be re-housed immediately will be much larger than initially anticipated. From the information that I have been given, it appears that thus far, fifty (50) portable Section 8 rental vouchers have been approved, however, the City believes that many more will be needed, expeditiously, to meet the anticipated need.

I am urging you to approve at least 100 more vouchers within the nearest possible timeframe to ensure that those families who need to be relocated can be as quickly as possible. These families deserve nothing less.

I have the deepest respect for the work that is at the heart of the mission of HUD and am willing to work with you in any way that I can to ensure that the needs of the families of Church Street South are met.

I appreciate your time and attention to my comments and look forward to working with you on this important matter.

Sincerely,

ROSA L. DeLAURO
Member of Congress

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Rosa DeLauro', is written over the printed name and title.